

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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S/PRS:HCARTER  
PM:LGELB

-----001089 311632Z /45

Z O 311616Z AUG 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION NATO FLASH  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, SALT

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF US-SOVIET SALT TALKS IN VIENNA

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN PLANS TO MAKE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCE-  
MENT AT 2:00 P.M. WASHINGTON TIME AUGUST 31:

"A MEETING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE  
AND THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER WAS PLANNED FOR  
SEPTEMBER 7-9, 1977, AT VIENNA TO CONTINUE TALKS ON  
STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL  
INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

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IT HAS NOW BEEN AGREED TO DEFER THOSE TALKS TO THE SECOND  
PART OF SEPTEMBER, WHEN MR. GROMYKO VISITS WASHINGTON  
DURING THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

2. COUNCIL MEETING PLANNED SEPTEMBER 10 ON SALT SHOULD  
BE CANCELLED. IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES MISSION SHOULD USE  
FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

-- WE MADE GENUINE PROGRESS IN GENEVA IN MAY.

-- A NUMBER OF SALT ISSUES HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO OUR DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA FOR CONTINUING NEGOTIATION. IN GENEVA AND SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGES, SUFFICIENT GENERAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THESE ISSUES TO PERMIT THEM TO BE DEALT WITH EFFECTIVELY IN THIS FORUM.

-- SINCE GENEVA WE HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF EXCHANGES HERE IN WASHINGTON AND IN MOSCOW, INCLUDING THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

-- THE EXCHANGES IN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW WERE DESIGNED ESSENTIALLY FOR EACH SIDE TO GIVE THE OTHER A BETTER

UNDERSTANDING OF ITS POSITION, AND THERE IS A BETTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

-- BUT THE EXCHANGES ALSO SHOWED THAT SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES REMAIN TO BE OVERCOME.

-- BOTH SIDES WILL CONTINUE THE INFORMAL EXCHANGES IN PREPARATION FOR A FORMAL MEETING LATER IN SEPTEMBER IN WASHINGTON.

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-- FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HAS AGREED TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO CONTINUE THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

-- IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THIS WOULD OCCUR SO SOON AFTER THE PROPOSED VIENNA MEETING, BOTH SIDES FELT THAT NOTHING WOULD BE LOST AND THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME ADVANTAGE IN WAITING FOR THE WASHINGTON MEETING.

-- IN ADDITION, THERE WERE GENUINE SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES ON OUR PART. THE SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN HEADS OF STATE AND FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY REQUIRED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO BE IN WASHINGTON ON THAT DATE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, PLAN MEETINGS  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSTPONEMENT OF US-SOVIET SALT TALKS IN VIENNA  
**TAGS:** OCON, OTRA, US, UR, NATO, (GROMYKO)  
**To:** NATO BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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